

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Page 15, between lines 12 and 13, insert the following paragraph:

--As described in Serial No. 09/211,310, bone particles generally characterized as "elongate", and therefore useful herein, possess relatively high median length to median thickness ratios. Such elongate particles can be readily obtained by any one of several methods, e.g. by milling or shaving the surface of an entire bone or relatively large section of bone. Employing a milling technique, one can obtain a mass of elongate bone particles containing at least about 60 weight percent, preferably at least about 70 weight percent and most preferably at least about 80 weight percent of bone particles possessing a median length of from about 2 to about 200 mm or more and preferably from about 10 to about 100 mm, a median thickness of from about 0.05 to about 2 mm and preferably from about 0.2 to about 1 mm, and a median width of from about 1 mm to about 20 mm and preferably from about 2 to about 5 mm. These bone particles can possess a median length to median thickness ratio of at least about 50:1 up to about 500:1 or more and preferably from about 50:1 to about 100:1, and a median length to median width ratio of from about 10:1 to about 200:1 and preferably from about 50:1 to about 100:1. Another procedure for obtaining the elongate bone particles herein, particularly useful for pieces of bone of up to about 100 mm in length, is the bone processing mill described in commonly assigned U.S. Patent No. 5,607,269. Use of this bone mill results in the production of long, thin strips which quickly curl lengthwise to provide tubular-like bone particles. If desired, the mass of bone

particles can be graded into different sizes to reduce or eliminate any less desirable size(s) of particles which may be present. In overall appearance, the elongate bone particles can be described as filaments, fibers, threads, slender or narrow strips, etc. --